

9/10/02  
C1  
1. (Twice Amended) A method, comprising:

- a. providing: i) a biological sample comprising one or more structural polypeptides; and ii) an acid consisting essentially of an organic acid;
- b. treating said sample with said acid under conditions such that said one or more purified polypeptides is recovered in a solution, said treating comprising mixing said sample with said acid, incubating said mixed sample and acid, and clarifying said mixed sample and acid to yield the recovered solution comprising said one or more purified polypeptides.

C2  
5. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said acid is an organic acid.

C3  
7. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of purifying the solution, concentrating the purified solution, and forcing the concentrated solution through a spinneret under conditions wherein insoluble fibers of polypeptides are produced.

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C4  
9. (Twice Amended) A method, comprising:

- a. providing: i) host cells expressing one or more recombinant structural polypeptides, and ii) a solution consisting essentially of an organic acid;
- b. treating said host cells with said solution to create a mixture of soluble and insoluble material, whereby said treating comprises mixing said cells with said acid, incubating said mixed cells and acid, and clarifying said mixed cells and acid to yield a recovered solution, said recovered solution comprising one or more purified polypeptides; and
- c. recovering said one or more recombinant polypeptides in the recovered solution.

~~11~~12. (Twice Amended) The method of claim ~~9~~8, further comprising purifying the solution, concentrating the purified solution, and forcing the concentrated solution through a spinneret under conditions wherein insoluble fibers of polypeptides are produced.

C5

14. (Twice Amended) A method, comprising:

- a. providing: i) bacterial cells expressing one or more recombinant structural polypeptides, and ii) a solution consisting essentially of an organic acid selected from formic acid, acetic acid, propionic acid, butyric acid, and valeric acid;
- b. treating said bacterial cells with said solution to create a mixture of soluble and insoluble material, whereby said treating comprises mixing said cells with said acid, incubating said mixed cells and acid, and clarifying said mixed cells and acid to yield a recovered solution, said recovered solution comprising one or more purified polypeptides; and
- c. recovering said one or more recombinant polypeptides in the recovered solution.

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C6

~~14~~16. (Twice Amended) The method of claim ~~14~~12, further comprising the steps of purifying the solution, concentrating said recovered one or more recombinant polypeptides to create a concentrated purified solution, and forcing said concentrated solution through a spinneret under conditions wherein insoluble fibers of polypeptides are produced.

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